capabilities of the existing training institutions for judicial officers and to establish Regional Centres to promote its objects.

The management of the Society has been entrusted to the Governing Council under the Chairmanship of the Chief Justice of India. Two Judges of the Supreme Court of India, Secretaries to the Government of India in the Department of Justice, Department of Legal Affairs and Department of Expenditure are its other members. The Registrar General, Supreme Court of India is the Convener of the Governing Council.

The Governing Council has all the powers which may be necessary or expedient for the furtherance of the objectives of the Academy.

न्यायिक प्रणाली के संबंध में अध्ययन

119. **श्री गोपाल सिंह जी. सोलंकी:** क्या विधि, न्याय और कंपनी कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार द्वारा न्यायिक प्रशासनिक दंड संहिता और कानूनी कार्यवाही की विद्यमान प्रणाली के संबंध में कोई विस्तृत अध्ययन कराया गया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) इस संबंध में सरकार और न्यायपालिका की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है;

(घ) क्या न्यायपालिका को लोकप्रिय बनाने के लिए उसे नया स्वरूप प्रदान करने, सरल बनाने और आम आदमी की पहुंच के भीतर लाने का कोई प्रस्ताव है; और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है?

विधि, न्याय और कंपनी कार्य मंत्री (श्री एम. थम्बी दुरई): (क) से (ङ) विधि आयोग और बकाया समिति जैसे विभि अन्य निकाय, समय-समय पर न्यायपालिका, दंड संहिता और विधिक कार्यवाहियों से संबंधित विभिन्न मुद्दों पर अध्ययन करते रहे है। हाल ही में, विधि आयोग ने, दंड प्रक्रिया संहिता का व्यापक पुनर्विलोकन किया और मामलों के त्वरित निपटान की बाबत अनेक सिफारिशें करते हुए अपनी 154वीं रिपोर्ट प्रस्तुत की। इसके अतिरिक्त, दंड प्रक्रिया संहिता और सिविल प्रक्रिया संहिता का संशोधन करने के लिए विधेयक, राज्य सभा में, क्रमश: मई 1994 और अगस्त, 1997 में पुन:स्थापित किए जा चुके हैं जिनमें अन्य बातों के साथ मामलों के त्वरित निपटान के लिए कतिपय उपबंध भी हैं।

2. आयोग/समिति द्वारा की गई सिफारिशों को ध्यान में रखते हुए, सरकार कालिकत: समुचित उपाय करती रही है। उन उपायों में मामलों के त्वरित निपटान के लिए विधिक कार्यवाहियों का सरलीकरण, न्यायालयों में कम्प्यूटरीकरण, जिसके अंतर्गत मामलों का सूचीकरण भी है, विशेष मजिस्ट्रेटों की नियुक्ति और समय-समय पर न्यायाधीशों की संख्या का पुनर्विलोकन भी है। ये उपाय एक नया दृष्टिकोण अपनाने के लिए दिशा प्रदान करेंगे और न्यायपालिका को जन सामान्य की पहुंच के भीतर लाएंगे।

3. और, सरकार ने, मध्यस्थम् मध्यस्थता और समझौते जैसी विवाद समाधान की वैल्पिक पद्धतियां अपनाई है। 9-11-95 से यथासंशोधित विधि सेवा प्राधिकरण अधिनियम, 1987 के प्रवर्तन के साथ लोक अदालतों को कानूनी आधार दे दिया गया है। लोक अदालतें, विवादों के समाधान के लिए प्रभावी और सफल अनुपूरक मंच साबित हुई हैं।

Criteria for Appointment of Judges of Superme Court and High Courts

120. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:
SHRI ABANI ROY:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for appiontment of judges to the Supreme Court and High Courts;

(b) whether the Government have received spate of representations to favour representatives of weaker sections of societies for the purpose;

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(d) the details of the steps taken to bring transparency in the functioning of judiciary in the country?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI): (a) to (c) Representations are received from time to time from different quarters suggesting representations in favour of weaker sections of societies.

The appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court and the High Courts is made in terms of Article 124 and Article 217 of the Constitution of India respectively, which do not provide for reservation for any caste or class of persons. The Government have, however, addressed

letters to the Chief Ministers of the States as also the Chief Justices of the High Courts from time to time requesting them to locate suitable persons from the Bar belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, other Backward Classes, Minorities and Women for appintment as High Court Judges.

(d) There is transparency in the functioning of the judiciary.

Suggestions of Law Commission for electroal reforms

121. SHRI RAGHAVJI:
PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Law Commission has made some suggestions for electoral reforms;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what it Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS. (SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI): (a) to (c) The Law Commission has not made any suggestion to the Government on electoral reforms. The Commission, however, has circulated a working paper containing some proposals on electroal reforms for soliciting views of various political parties, Election Commission, Legislatures, etc.

Introduction of Electronic Voting Machines

122. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to make a mid-term updating of voter lists all over the country;

(b) if so, the methodology proposed to be adopted for the purpose;

(c) whether steps are being taken to introduce electronic voting machines and voting process in the entire country;

(d) if so, the target date fixed for the purpose; and

(e) the steps taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI): (a) and (b) The Election Commission has issued orders for a special revision of electoral rolls with 1.1.99 as the qualifying date. The process of Special Revision is scheduled to commence with the draft publication of the rolls on 10th April, 1999. In the States of MP and Tripura, the process of summary revision of electoral rolls has already commenced with the publication of draft rolls on 8th and 9th February, 1999. For the revision of electroal rolls in respect of Assam, Bihar and J&K, no decision has yet been taken by the Commission. The strategy to be adopted by the Commission for the aforesaid special revision, include:—

(i) organisation of special compaigns to assist electors in filing claims/ objections to the draft roll.

(ii) full complement of staff representing Electoral Registration Officer to be present at the designated locations.

(iii) intensive Awareness Compaign to inform and educate electors and political parties.

(iv) utilisation of computerised rolls as draft rolls.

(v) special compaign days scheduled to fall on Saturdays and Sundays.

(c) to (e) The Commission has already taken steps to use the Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) for the conduct of elections. These machines have already been used successfully in 16 Assembly Constituencies comprising 2930 polling stations at the General Elections to Legislative Assembly of the States of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and NCT of Delhi held in November, 1998. The Commission is keen to use EVMs at elections to the maximum extent possible. However, due to limited availability of these machines (1.5 lakhs EVMs), these can not to used in the entire country at present. No target date can be fixed for the use of EVMs in the entire country.

महिलाओं को शीघ्र न्याय दिलाया जाना

123. **श्रीमती सरोज दुबे: क्या विधि, न्याय और कंपनी कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:**